



Winter Driving Safety

Tailgate Meeting Guide

1. Prepare your vehicle for winter

You may know how to drive for winter conditions – braking in snow, handling a skid, and more. But what if your vehicle does not respond? A winter-ready vehicle is just as important as good driving skills.

Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of workplace deaths in British Columbia. On average, the number of crashes where someone is injured or killed on BC roads due to driving too fast for the conditions almost doubles from nearly 121 in October to over 234 in December.*

A winter-ready vehicle allows you to better handle winter conditions. Here's what to do:

1. Install four matched winter tires with the winter tire logo.

- Winter tires provide better traction in cold weather (7 degrees Celsius or less). When the temperature dips below 7 degrees, the rubber in all-season tires begins to harden. This means less elasticity and traction on the road.
- Check your tire pressure once a month, or more, depending on temperature changes (tire pressure drops in colder conditions).
- Tires marked with an M+S are also legally acceptable but do not provide the same degree of performance as a mountain snowflake tire in severe winter conditions.
- Winter tires, to qualify as legal, must have a tread at least 3.5 mm deep.



2. Give your vehicle a check-up.

- Before each trip, do a 'circle check' (walk around your vehicle to inspect its overall condition).
- Review your vehicle's maintenance record. Take it in for repair if needed and report any concerns to the company.
- Make sure the battery, brakes, lights, fuses, cooling/heating systems, exhaust/electrical systems, belts and hoses are in good shape.
- Keep the gas tank full to avoid condensation in the tank which can cause fuel lines to freeze.

3. Equip your vehicle with a winter survival kit.

Recommended items are an approved high-visibility vest, non-perishable food, blankets, first aid supplies, windshield scraper, snow brush, spare tire, wheel wrench & jack, shovel & traction mat, sand or kitty litter, fuel line antifreeze, flares & matches or lighter, tire chains & gloves, flashlight & extra batteries, battery jumper cables, sandbags for extra weight, extra clothing & footwear.

Know before you go.

Before heading out:

- Visit DriveBC.ca for current road conditions.
- Visit ShiftIntoWinter.ca for tips on ways to prepare yourself, your vehicle, and how to drive safely on winter roads.

*ICBC Casualty Crashes by Contributing Factor. Driving Too Fast for the Conditions 2009 – 2013 Police Reported Data



Project: _____ Address: _____

Employer: _____ Supervisor: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ Shift: _____

Number on Shift: _____ Number Attending: _____

Other safety issues or suggestions made by attendees:

Record of those attending:

Name (please print)	Signature	Company
1.		
2.		
3.		
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Manager's remarks:

Manager: _____ Supervisor: _____

(signature)

(signature)

